NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

PUBLISHED BY J. B. RUSSELL, AT NO. 52 NORTH MARKET STREET, (AT THE AGRICULTURAL WAREHOUSE.)—T. G. FESSENDEN, EDITOR.

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COMMUNICATIONS.

FOR THE NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

The following letter from T. A. KNIGHT, Esq. will, I think, be interesting to all those who have seen the illiberal and disingenuous remarks in Loudon's Gardener's Magazine, upon the London Horticultural Society, and that eminent and liberal horticulturist, its learned President.

J. LOWELL.

LONDON, MAY 28, 1830.

JOHN LOWELL, ESQ.,
Roxbury, near Boston.

MY DEAR SIR—I intended to have forwarded to you a box with plants or grafts of some Belgick varieties of Pears, of which the *merits have been ascertained* in the garden of the Horticultural Society; but the affairs of that Society became embarrassed the past winter, and the members have been disagreeing among themselves, and all has been in confusion owing to a heavy debt having been contracted.

All parties have *alike been friendly to me;* and reelected me without a dissenting voice. I had declared, when it was first proposed to make me President, that I, living at so great a distance (170 miles) would take no part in the management of the finances. Everything is now perfectly and amicably arranged, and all is going on well; and I hope next spring to forward a box to you. I have two or three excellent new pears in my own nursery, and one very admirable apple. I have also a new plum *which remains sound and excellent* all winter, and which is the best dessert fruit which I possess in the spring. I shall be happy to bud trees of any kind which I think worth sending you.

Respecting my dispute with Loudon, I thought the discovery I had made as to the culture of the potato, of much value to a country circumstanced as ours is, and having the power to silence him with little trouble, I thought it best to do so.

I never engage in controversy till I am very sure I am right; and knowing that the public will sooner or later judge correctly I never lose my temper, or am in the least degree discomposed.

I think, that, last year, I discovered a mode of improving cider, which renders it more wholesome, and enables me to obtain from apples which are without acid, a liquor as free from acid as any kind of wine.

During the fermentation of cider sherry, though it be called vinous, a good deal of acetous acid, is, I believe, always generated, making those liquors more or less harsh, that is, really acetous. I mix in each hogshead of 110 gallons, from seven to eight pounds of newly burnt charcoal finely powdered. This mitigates fermentation, rendering the liquor as black as ink so long as it ferments, but as soon as fermentation ceases, the charcoal is deposited, carrying with it all impurities, and leaving the cider excessively bright. No taste or smell is given to the liquor by the charcoal, that being wholly insoluble.

I sent you a small tree of the Siberian crab, called the Bitter sweet, the fruit of which is wholly free from acid and makes a cider which resembles a light French wine; it agrees with many who cannot bear common cider. I hope it will prove a useful variety—none was ever seen so productive in our climate.

Very sincerely yours,
T. A. KNIGHT.

N. B. *Roxbury, July* 30.—Any person may have buds or scions of the Siberian bitter sweet.

J. L.

LOCUST.

MR FESSENDEN—On the whole, I am extremely well pleased with the New England Farmer; but should I find a word or two of fault, it will all be intended for the benefit of the paper, as well as its numerous readers. What I particularly allude to in this case is the neglect of giving the botanical or scientific name to all vegetables that are brought into notice, either that of Linnæus, or some other well known and approved author. There is no one of your correspondents, I presume, but might find the botanic name of any vegetable he might wish to bring into notice through the medium of your paper.

I was induced to make these remarks from reading the observations of MR WM. BUCKMINSTER, in the last No. of your journal, where he recommends the culture of the Yellow Locust Tree. I have no doubt but his remarks are worthy of attention—but what species of Locust is this? Eaton describes four, viz: False acacia, (*Robinia pseudo acacia*—Clammy Locust (*R. viscosa*)—Rose Locust, (*R. Hispida*)—and Siberian Locust, (*R. Caragana.*) NUTTALL mentions the same, but no *Yellow* Locust. My first impression, however, was, that it was the common Locust we often see in our door yards, here in the country, *Robinia pseudo acacia*; but perceiving Mr B's account of the rapid growth of its sprouts, a circumstance I never happened to notice, I began to be suspicious that it must be some other species.

It is well known that common names are often local as well in their application as in their origin; thus a plant may receive a vulgar name in one section of a country where it may be familiarly known by almost every one, yet unheard of in a different section; but the scientific or Linnæan appellation conveys an idea of the same plant *throughout the world* wherever the name can be read.

CROPS IN NEW HAMPSHIRE,

By the way, a few remarks on the state of the crops in this northern section of New England, may not be altogether uninteresting. Our mowing fields, but a small part of which is yet cut, will not afford an average crop; old fields of red top and speargrass are extremely light. English grain is thought to be more promising than it has been for a number of years previous; but Indian corn must inevitably fall short of an average. Most of the fields of corn in this vicinity met with a serious disaster in the very outset, especially where raw, coarse manure was used in the hill, which I believe was a general practice—in addition to the effects of a cold wet season, the farmer, after waiting an unusual length of time for the blade to make its appearence, examined for the cause, and on removing the covering, found to his astonishment and vexation, from five or six to ten or twelve wire worms, all standing ready, like the dragon in the Apocalypse, to devour the first embryo that the feeble efforts of nature were able to protrude; and this I found was the case in a few instances, even where the seed had been steeped in a solution of copperas, or saltpetre—the latter I have never known, before, to fail. This want of success in the solutions, may, I think, be accounted for from the frequent rains and great abundance of moisture in the ground, which extracted or otherwise neutralized the salts, and thereby destroyed their efficacy.

It may be worthy of remark, that those fields generally which suffered the most from the worm, were where the seed had been thrown upon the naked dung; but in some few instances where a hoe full of earth intervened, it almost entirely escaped. Yours, &c.

TRUMAN ABELL.

Lempster, N. H., July 19, 1830.

Remarks by the Editor.—Scientific men have not agreed relative to the varieties of the common Locust tree, (*Robinia pseudo acacia.*) Michaux, in his *North American Sylva*, in describing this tree and its properties, says, 'When the trees are felled in winter, while the circulation of the sap is suspended, and posts [for fences, split from them] are allowed to become perfectly dry, before they are set, they are estimated to last forty years. Experience has shown that their duration varies according to certain differences in the trees from which they are formed; thus about Lancaster and at Harrisburgh, a small town on the Susquehannah, where a considerable trade is carried on in wood that is brought down the river, those trees are accounted best whose heart is red; the next in esteem are those with a greenish yellow heart; and the least valuable are those with a white heart. From this variety in the color of the wood, which probably arises from a difference in the soil, are derived the names of Red, Green, and White Locust. In the western states there is a variety, which is sometimes called Black Locust.'

Mr Briggs, of Bristol, R. I., says, 'of this valuable tree I believe there are two kinds, or species, growing pretty generally throughout New England, at least as far as my information extends, viz. the yellow and the white locust. The latter is very inferior in value to the former. While the white decays as soon as the chesnut, or any common forest wood, the yellow is superior in point of durability to any kind of timber.' * * * *

Again, he observes that 'The two kinds may be easily distinguished by peeling the bark, or cutting a chip from the wood. The bark of the white is more smooth, and peals off more readily, and the wood is more sappy than the yellow. The white is worth but little, except for fire wood.' &c. See *N. E. Farmer*, vol. v. p. 177. and vol. vii. p. 81. We have no doubt but Mr Buckminster's observations apply to the Pseudo acacia, the only kind which is common in New England, but cannot say whether he has reference to the white or yellow kind.

We are glad to find that our intelligent correspondent appears to entertain a favorable opinion

of the utility of soaking seed corn in solution of copperas and saltpetre; and that he is able to assign so probable a cause of their failure in some instances, the present season.

Mr Fessenden—I was somewhat surprised on reading the statements of L. S. in the Farmer of July 9th, on the application of brine to pear-trees. My own experience had led me to believe, that salt, or strong brine, in any considerable quantities, would kill any tree or shrub to which it might be applied.

A few years since, having cut several butternut and walnut trees from the cultivated part of my meadow, I was troubled with an annual growth of sprouts and suckers, from the stumps and roots; and although I cut them off closely, each year, yet they seemed not at all to diminish. And as it was difficult to extract the green roots, I had recourse to brine, such as your correspondent applied to his Pear trees—and though I put less than a pailful to a stump, yet one course was sufficient to kill them, entirely, in a few weeks. I have tried salt brine, with the same effect, on other trees, which I wished to remove.—I have also found it useful in destroying beds of Canada thistles. I should like to know more of the beneficial effects of salt in given quantities, in improving an exhausted soil, or as a mixture in composts—and whether other farmers or horticulturists have found it useful to fruit trees, as stated by L. S. Yours, &c. J. S.

Grafton Co., N. H., July 19, 1830.

Remarks by the Editor.—That strong solutions of salt in water are fatal to vegetation of all kinds is a fact which has been known for ages. But it is stated by agricultural writers that in small quantities, mixed with other substances, and judiciously applied, it is useful as a manure. Its application is recommended for destroying insects, and it is probable that its good effects when applied to pear trees, mentioned by L. S. pages 401, 402, vol. viii. New England Farmer, might originate in the destruction of some worm in the root, which the brine might destroy, without being strong enough to injure the tree. We have heretofore expressed our doubts relative to the utility of salt, applied as mentioned above, but are not prepared to say that cases may not exist, in which it may be of service as an antidote to premature decay in fruit trees. The most efficient and useful medicines, as well for vegetables as animals, are poisonous and destructive, when exhibited in too large doses.

FOWLS IN GARDENS.

Mr Fessenden—I have read in a late New England Farmer, the communication of Benjamin Wheeler, headed 'Fowls in Gardens.' I am one of the 'neighbors' of Major Wheeler; and except his hens and my dog, our families are all good friends.—Under these circumstances I feel called on to give my reasons for not having been 'convinced' by the 'precepts and example' of my friend.

From my youth up I have had occasion to observe that a hen is naturally disposed to all manner of mischief; being altogether selfish in her feelings, regardless of of all interests except her own and those of her chickens; and because no laws have been made for her better regulation, and no fences required to restrain her wanderings, she deems herself to be lawless, and sets all the lawyers and field drivers at defiance. Whether a hen *cannot* or *will not* distinguish between a worm and a cornfield, I leave to the metaphysicians; but it is quite certain that she *does not*, nor does she seem to be at all concerned to comprehend the difference between her master's enclosures and those of his neighbors.

If Major Wheeler's hens could be persuaded to follow his 'precepts and example,' his neighbors would have no cause of complaint; but although he never invades my cornfield himself, and has forbidden his hens to leave his garden, yet they disregard it, and no longer ago than last summer, put into their crops not less than half a dozen bushels of corn from the ears in my field.

In this state of things, I have bought me a dog, and a very good dog too, Mr Editor, and hope I shall be able to persuade my neighbors to do the same. JOHN BALLARD, 2d.

Framingham, July 29.

VEGETABLE PHYSIOLOGY.

Mr Fessenden—The following outlines of the Theory of Vegetable Physiology, were drawn up by Prof. Lindley of the London University, from the writings of M. du Petit Thouars, and with some modifications, may be regarded as exhibiting a general view of the science in its present state. Every proposition abounds with matter for attentive consideration, and might serve as the theme for an interesting disquisition. As the result of the researches of one of the most accute observers and ingenious reasoners ever engaged in the investigation of this subject, it is worthy of a careful study; and as the season is approaching in which the operation of *budding* is usually performed, it may prove acceptable to many of your readers.

Respectfully yours, W.

Salem, August 2, 1830.

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1. The bud is the first visible moveable point of vegetation; one exists at the axilla of every leaf. It is *manifest* in the greater number of *dicotyledonous* plants and grasses. It is *latent* in *monocotyledonous* plants, in which it exists only as a vital point. The leaf therefore is to the bud what the flower is to the fruit and seed.

2. The bud is at first supported by the juices contained in the utricles of the interior vegetable substance or parenchyma. This is the operation by which the parenchyma is reduced to a state of *pith*. That part is therefore analogous to the cotyledon of the seed, or *seminal embryo*.

3. As soon as the bud is formed it is subject to two general movements. The one is a motion upwards, or an *aërial* motion. The other is a motion downwards, or a *terrestrial* motion. From the first proceeds the embryos of leaves, analogous to which is the plumuli; from the second proceeds the formation of the wood or bark, analogous to which is the radicle.

4. Each of these fibres is formed at the expense of the *cambium* or of the sap produced by the first fibres and deposited between the wood and bark. The fibres carry downwards the matter necessary for their own elongations, which matter is the *descending sap*.

5. The development of the bud consists in the aërial or leafy elongation of these fibres; each of which, attracted by the leafy extremity, carries upward with it the matter necessary for its own elongation, which matter is the *ascending sap*.

6. From this sap are formed two general substances, the woody and the parenchymatous, (which were long ago recognized by Grew;) the woody is disposed in fibres which undergo no change The parenchymatous appears formed, in the outset, of detached particles which unite and form utricles; so that it assists in the process of increase in every direction. This is the only substance which is susceptible of a green color.

7. The sap is the food of plants. It is pumped up in the form of moisture by the roots, and it becoms exposed to the atmosphere in the leaves. In the first instance it has a common use; but finally it receives a particular destination according to the kinds of plants and their parts. It is only carried to the points when it is wanted, so that there is no universal circulation. Being composed principally of the two general substances, of which mention has been made, the woody and the parenchymatous, as soon as one of these is employed in the process of vegetation, it is necessary that the other should be disengaged and deposited in the vicinity; so that the application of one substance is the separation of the other.

YELLOW LOCUST.

Mr Fessenden—Early in May, 1828, I removed two Yellow Locust trees from a dry, sandy soil, where they were suffering much from the depredations of the worm, to a wet, mucky soil, highly favorable to the growth and operations of worms. These trees were not originated from seed, but sprouts from roots, where trees had been eaten down. Soon after they were transplanted, I observed that the worms, which had previously eaten so as almost to destroy the trees, continued their ravages, and their chips lay in piles around the trees, as ample witnesses of their unabated industry. I gave up my beautiful young Locusts for lost.

Early in June, of the same year, being engaged in whitewashing some fruit trees, I thought proper to try its effects upon the Locusts.

My first operation was, to fill up the cavities, occasioned by the worms, as much as convenient, with lime from the bottom of the vessel containing the wash; I then, with my brush washed the tree from the ground upward about five feet to the limbs; finding in a short time, that the desirable effect had been produced, I threw some lime around the roots of the trees, in order more fully to test its utility and increase the thriftiness of the tree; suffice it to say, my most sanguine expectations have been answered in regard to them; my trees are in a very thrifty state, and no worm has disturbed them in more than two years. I place a small quantity of lime around the roots every spring, and repeat the washing. Yours &c.

Richmond, Ms. July 29, 1830. W. BACON.

MASSACHUSETTS HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

FRUITS.

Saturday, July 31, 1830.

Apples.—A basket of Early Harvest, by John Prince, Esq. of Roxbury, very fine Sopsavine by Rufus Howe, Pine apple by same.

Apricots.—A number of boxes of fine appearance by Dr Robbins of Roxbury. A specimen of this fruit of large size, upon the branches, much injured by the late rains, Wm Gridley, of Boston—supposed to be the Moor Park. Those exhibited by Mr Aspinwall, of Brookline, were very fine—Moor Park by E. Phinney.

Plums.—Morocco Plums, of good appearance by Rufus Howe. Cherry Plums, by Gen. Dearborn, a specimen of the Morello Cherry, upon the branches, of handsome and rich appearance, but too acid for table fruit, from the garden of Mr M'Lane, of Boston.

Honey.—A box of very superior honey was shown by JOHN PRINCE, Esq. of Roxbury.

In a note to the Society, Mr PRINCE states that in March last he purchased two Hives, of Mr BEARD of Charlestown, brought from Maine last fall. They have produced four fine swarms this season, all hived in *Beard's Patent Slide Hives.* The first swarms, of the 27th May, produced the box now exhibited, and three others making 25lbs. net, taken off 15th July.

The success of Mr PRINCE certainly furnishes a striking example of what may be done by our farmers in providing themselves with this rich and wholesome luxury.—Our fields abound with abundant materials for the labors of the honey Bee; and in what way could a farmer expend a few dollars, to so much *profit*, to say nothing of the comfort and pleasure derived, as in the purchase of a swarm of bees that work without pay, and accumulate without capital? Mr BEARD, of Charlestown annually brings a considerable number of swarms of Bees from Maine, which, with his patent hives, the best now in use, he sells at a very moderate price. E. P.

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A basket of beautiful fruit from the garden of S. G. Perkins, Esq. of Brookline, was exhibited at the Hall of the society on Saturday, and attracted much notice. The following communication accompanied it.

DEAR SIR,—I send you a basket of fruit containing specimens of fine grapes and nectarines not generally known here. The bunch of white grapes which lays on the top of the basket is the real '*Chasselas d'or, &c. Bar sur Aube.*' I have about a hundred plants of this species of fruit for sale in pots; the other kinds of grapes are better known here under the names of St Peters, Black Hamburg, and White Muscat.

The nectarines are, 1st, the Lewis or Boston nectarine; this is a yellow and red fruit which originated in the yard of Mr Thomas Lewis many years since. I obtained buds from the tree the second season it showed fruit, soon after which it was destroyed; so that by mere chance the fruit was preserved. Mr Lewis assured me that it was raised from a *peach* stone, which is possible, though not by any means common, the nectarine being nothing more than a smooth skin peach.

I shall have some handsome specimens next week when I shall be happy to present one or two to the committee on fruit that they may be painted, agreeably to your request. This fruit was painted some years since by my order, and sent to the Horticultural Society of London, but I have understood that doubts have been entertained as to the correctness of its coloring, it being thought too brilliant to be natural. You will, however, see by the specimens I shall present you, that there is no deception on this score.

The white nectarine is the 'Varmach' or 'Peterborough,' an old fruit long known under these names, and commonly called the White Nectarine.

The cold and wet weather during the last week has prevented me from sending you some larger and finer bunches of grapes; as they have not ripened the last six or seven days as much as I expected they would have done. Some of the berries in the bunch of the 'Bar sur Aube' measure three inches round by actual measurement made by me this morning.

Respectfully yours,
SAMUEL G. PERKINS.

ZEBEDEE COOK, Jr. Esq.

The following flowers were exhibited: Erythina cristi-galli, or Cockscomb Coral Tree; Lilium superbum; Tigridia pavonia, or Tiger flower; Agapanthus umbellatus, Asplenium; and fine double Holyhocks from JOHN LOWELL, Esq.; Double Dahlias from Gen. DEARBORN, and Double Dahlias from DAVID HAGGERSTON.

Agricultural Premiums—The Middlesex Society of Husbandmen and Manufacturers announce the following premiums to be awarded at the annual meeting, 7th of October next.—For the best cultivated farm $25; the second best $15; the third $10. For the best Apple Orchard, planted or set out since 1820, containing not less than 75 trees, $15; the second best $12; the third $9. The Trustees have appointed Josiah Adams, Esq. of Framingham, Honorable Benjamin F. Varnum, of Dracut, Moses Whitney Esq. of Stow, Reuben Brown, Jr. Esq. of this town, the committee to inspect the farms and fruit trees, and adjudge premiums.

The gentlemen are requested by the Trustees to visit the farms and orchards about the first of September; and in each case to take with them, either one of the selectmen of the town where the farm lies, or some other respectable neighbor, who shall aid them in their duties, and add his impartial testimony, to such other evidence as the owner may lay before the committee. This precaution will secure a fair representation of the case, and prevent any dissatisfaction.

Enterprising farmers should attend to the subject without delay. For the Trustees have voted, that those persons, who wish to have their farms or orchards inspected, must make application either to Mr John Stacy, of this town, the Secretary, or to one of the Committee at an early day in Aguust.—*Concord Gazette.*

From Silliman's Journal of Science &c, for July, 1830.

MODE FOR ADJUSTING LIGHTNING RODS.

Columbus, (Ohio,) May 24th, 1830

TO THE EDITOR, FROM MR P. B. WILCOSS.

SIR—The Scioto valley in which this town is situated, is liable to heavy thunder storms. A contrariety of opinion and of practice prevails in attempting to secure houses by rods from the effects of lightning; and I have been requested by several gentlemen, to address you upon the subject, to ascertain the proper manner in which to put up rods, so as most effectually to protect buildings. Some of the difficulties are as follows:

1. *The depth to which the rod should be inserted in the ground.*—It has been remarked in this state and in Kentucky, both lime stone countries, that very frequently rods furnish no protection to houses. In the summer season the earth becomes perfectly dry for several feet below the surface, and it is supposed by some that there is not sufficient moisture at the termination of the rod in the ground.

2. Another difficulty is, *the proper height of the rod above the highest point of the building.*

3. Another very serious difficulty seems to be *the manner in which the rod should be attached to the building.* The common practice here is to place the rod by the side of the house and at proper distance, let the rod run through small pieces of iron, one end of which is driven into the house, the other having an eye sufficiently large to admit the rod. Through this eye, and before the rod is inserted, the neck of a glass bottle, the end of a horn, or some non-conductor is placed, so that the building stands isolated. Serious doubts are entertained whether the practice is correct or not. Indeed there is nobody here who knows *how* to put up a lightning rod, and rest satisfied that he is correct. Will you be good enough to give us the necessary information? With your permission I would make public your views upon the subject, as I have no doubt it may save many lives and much property.

Answers given by Prof. Olmsted of Y. College at the Editor's request.

1. The rod should be *closely joined together* throughout, either by securing one part within another, or by welding several parts together; this will prevent the interruption occasioned to the passage of electricity through links or loose joints.

2. The points of the rod above should be *gilt*, since the conducting power of iron is impaired by oxidation.

3. The rod should descend into the ground far enough to be always in contact with *moist earth.* This depth will vary in different places. In some places five feet will be sufficient; in others, six or seven will be required; and in soils peculiarly dry it may be prudent in the season of thunder storms, to connect the bottom of the rod (by means of a chain or the rod continued,) with a well or vein of water. The chain or rod may be inclosed in some substance, or be painted with a thick coat of lampblack to keep it from rusting. When the bottom of the rod terminates in the ground it may branch off in several directions.

4. The height of the rod above the building should be regulated on this principle; that *a lightning rod will protect a space in every direction from it, of twice its length above the building.* Thus, if it rises fifteen feet above the roof, it will protect a space of thirty feet every way.

5. The rod should be fastened to the house by wooden in preference to iron stays. For, although electricity takes the shortest route yet in case the rod were imperfect, the passage of the fluid into the building would be favored by iron bolts.

6. The kitchen chimney, being that alone in which a fire is usually kept during the summer, requires to be especially protected.

7. Paint, made of lampblack is best suited to lightning rods, this substance being a better conducter than other kinds of paint.

With regard to the failure in lightning rods mentioned in the foregoing letter, it is probably owing chiefly to the *dryness of the soil*; and therefore, in that region particular care will be required in fixing the bottom of the rod, so as to make it convey off the electricity in the best manner, and this is most effectually secured by a thorough metallic communication with moist earth, or better with permanent water.

In addition to the above remarks, drawn up at my request by Prof. Olmsted, it may be suggested, that, as the gold leaf on lightning rods is in a few years removed by the weather, it would be better to terminate the rods with solid silver, or better still with the platina points prepared by Mr Lukens of Philadelphia.—*Ed.*

A black woman has been committed for trial at New York for throwing some liquid into the eyes of a printer, which prevented him from seeing at all for three weeks, and the sight of only one eye is now restored. The physician could not tell what the liquid was.

INSECT ARCHITECTURE.

It can never be too strongly impressed upon a mind anxious for the acquisition of knowledge, that the commonest things by which we are surrounded are deserving of minute and careful attention. The most profound investigations of Philosophy are necessarily connected with the ordinary circumstances of our being, and of the world in which our every-day life is spent.

This is peculiarly applicable to the economy of insects. They constitute a very large and interesting part of the animal kingdom. They are everywhere about us. The spider weaves his curious web in our houses; the caterpillar constructs his silken cell in our gardens; the wasp that hovers over our food has a nest not far removed from us, which she has assisted to build with the nicest art; the beetle that crawls across our path is also an ingenious mechanic, and has some curious instincts to exhibit to those who will feel an interest in watching his movements; and the moth that eats into our cloths has something to plead for our pity, for he came, like us, naked into the world, and he has destroyed our garments, not in malice or wantonness, but that he may clothe himself with the same wool which we have stripped from the sheep. An observation of the habits of these little creatures is full of valuable lessons, which the abundance of the examples has no tendency to diminish. The more such observations are multiplied, the more are we led forward to the freshest and the most delightful parts of knowledge; the more do we learn to estimate rightly the extraordinary provisions and most abundant resources of a creative Providence; and the better do we appreciate our own relations with all the infinite varieties of Nature, and our dependence, in common with the ephemeron that flutters its little hour in the summer sun, upon that Being in whose scheme of existence the humblest as well as the highest creature has its destined purposes. 'If you speak of a stone,' says St Basil, one of the Fathers of the Church, 'if you speak of a fly, a gnat, or a bee, your conversation will be a sort of demonstration of His power whose hand formed them; for the wisdom of the workman is commonly perceived in that which is of little size. He who has stretched out the heavens, and dug up the bottom of the sea, is also He who has pierced a passage through the sting of the bee for the ejection of its poison.'

As a proof of the extraordinary number of insects within a limited field of observation, Mr Stephens informs us, that in the short space of forty days, between the midule of June and the beginning of August, he found, in the vicinity of Ripley, specimens of above two thousand four hundred species of insects, exclusive of caterpillars and grubs,—a number amounting to nearly a fourth of the insects ascertained to be indigenous. He further tells us, that among these specimens, although the ground had, in former seasons, been frequently explored, there were about one hundred species altogether new, and not before in any collection which he had inspected, including several new genera; while many insects reputed scarce were in considerable plenty.*

There is, perhaps, no situation in which the lover of nature and the observer of animal life may not find opportunities for increasing his store of facts. It is told of a state prisoner under a cruel and rigorous despotism, that when he was excluded from all commerce with mankind, and was shut out from books, he took an interest and found consolation in the visits of a spider; and there is no improbability in the story. The operations of that persecuted creature are among the most extraordinary exhibitions of mechanical ingenuity; and a daily watching of the workings of its instinct would beget admiration in a rightly constituted mind. The poor prisoner had abundant leisure for the speculations in which the spider's web would enchain his understanding. We have all of us at one period or other of our lives, been struck with some singular evidence of contrivance in the economy of insects, which we have seen with our own eyes. Want of leisure, and probably want of knowledge, have prevented us from following up the curiosity which for a moment was excited. And yet some such accident has made men Naturalists, in the highest meaning of the term. Bonnet, evidently speaking of himself, says, 'I knew a Naturalist, who, when he was seventeen years of age, having heard of the operations of the ant-lion, began by doubting them. He had no rest till he had examined into them; and he verified them, he admired them, he discovered new facts, and soon became the disciple and the friend of the Pliny of France'* (Reaumur.)

An accurate knowledge of the properties of insects is of great importance to man, merely with relation to his own comfort and security. The injuries which they inflict upon us are extensive and complicated; and the remedies which we attempt, by the destruction of those creatures, both insects, birds, and quadrupeds, who keep the ravagers in check, are generally aggravations of the evil, because they are directed by an ignorance of the economy of nature. The little knowledge which we have of the modes by which insects may be impeded in their destruction of much that is valuable to us, has probably proceeded from our contempt of their individual insignificance. The security of property has ceased to be endangered by quadrupeds of prey, and yet our gardens are ravaged by aphides and caterpillars. It is somewhat startling to affirm that the condition of the human race is seriously injured by these petty annoyances; but it is perfectly true that the art and industry of man have not yet been able to overcome the collective force, the individual perseverance, and the complicated machinery of destruction which insects employ. A small ant, according to a most careful and philosophical observer, opposes almost invincible obstacles to the progress of civilization in many parts of the equinoctial zone. These animals devour paper and parchment; they destroy every book and manuscript. Many provinces of Spanish America cannot, in consequence, show a written document of a hundred years existence. 'What developement,' he adds, 'can the civilization of a people assume, if there be nothing to connect the present with the past—if the depositories of human knowledge must be constantly renewed—if the monuments of genius and wisdom cannot be transmitted to posterity?'† Again, there are beetles which deposit their larvæ in trees, in such formidable numbers, that whole forests perish, beyond the power of remedy. The pines of the Hartz have thus been destroyed to an enormous extent; and in North America, at one place in South Carolina, at least ninety trees in every hundred, upon a tract of two thousand acres, were swept away by a small, black, winged bug. And yet, according to Wilson, the historian of American birds, the people of the United States were in the habit of destroying the red-headed woodpecker, the great enemy of these insects, because he occasionally spoilt an apple. The same delightful writer, and true naturalist, speaking of the labors of the ivory-billed wood-pecker, says, 'would it be believed that the larvæ of an insect, or fly, no larger than a grain of rice, should silently, and in one season, destroy some thousand acres of pine trees, many of them from two to three feet in diameter, and a hundred and fifty feet high? in some places the whole woods, as far as you can see around you, are dead, stripped of the bark, their wintry-looking arms and bare trunks bleaching in the sun, and tumbling in ruins before every blast.' The subterraneous larva of a species of beetle has often caused a complete failure of the seed corn, as in the district of Halle in 1812. The corn-weevil, which extracts the flour from grain, leaving the husk behind, will destroy the contents of the largest storehouses in a very short period. The wire-worm, and the turnip-fly, are dreaded by every farmer. The ravages of the locust are too well known not to be at once recollected, as an example of the formidable collective power of the insect race. The white ants of tropical countries sweep away whole villages, with as much certainty as a fire or an inundation; and ships even have been destroyed by these indefatigable republics. Our own docks and embankments have been threatened by such minute ravagers.

[To be concluded next week.]

* Stephen's Illustrations, vol. i., p. 72, note.

* Contemplation de la Nature, part ii. ch. 42.

† Humboldt, Voyage, lib. vii., ch. 20.

TOMATOES.

Some late paper contains a paragraph in praise of the tomato, one of the very best plants for the table, and in daily use, when in season, over all parts of the country, but New England. It has not won its way to public favor according to its merits, though this may be said of a great many men and things. It takes a long time for the public to discover a good thing, and appropriate it. The tomato is easily raised, and may be had from the vine for more than a quarter of a year. The fruit is so rich in appearance that it should be cultivated if only for ornament.—*Tribune.*

ICE HOUSES.

In the city, people must purchase their ice, but there is little excuse for a good farmer who has no ice house. The Dutch in Pennsylvania, living in a limestone district, where the springs gush from the surface, have generally a little dairy house erected over one of these, well knowing the advantage of keeping milk cool in summer. Two men may construct an ice house in two days in autumn; for it is nothing but a cellar and a garret, or a roof built over a cellar; and the roof even may be substituted by a quantity of hay thrown upon bars.

The saving in a year will exceed the expense, and the amount of comforts would be cheaply purchased at a higher rate. Fresh provisions may be preserved in ice a long time, and taken out in a better state to be eaten, than when put in. Butter in such weather as we have lately had, unless kept with ice, must be eaten with a spoon instead of a knife, and how much better is fruit when it is cold?

Many men, would expend ten dollars in buying a *secret* to preserve provisions fresh in hot weather, and believe in it because they comprehend it not—who yet neglect the safe, obvious, and cheap resource of ice houses.—*Ibid.*

Potato Cheese.—In Thuringia and part of Saxony, a kind of potato cheese is made which is very much sought after. The following is the recipe: select good white potatos, boil them, and when cold, peel and reduce them to a pulp with a rasp or mortar; to five pounds of this pulp which must be very uniform and homogeneous, add a pint of sour milk and the requisite portion of salt;—knead the whole well, cover it, and let it remain three or four days, according to the season;—then knead it afresh, and place the cheeses in small baskets, when they will part with their superfluous moisture;—dry them in the shade, and place them in layers in large pots or kegs, where they may remain a fortnight. The older they are the finer they become.

This cheese has the advantage of never engendering worms and of being preserved fresh for many years, provided it is kept in a dry place, and in well closed vessels.—*Bull. Univ.*

Flesh of young Calves.—By a municipal law in Paris, it is forbidden to expose for sale the meat of calves less than six weeks old. The great profit arising from the sale of milk furnishes an inducement to the violation of this law. Many thousands of cows are kept and fed in cellars, within the walls of Paris for the sale of the milk, and unless a cow yields a calf about once a year, she is less profitable.

The prohibition of the sale of very young calves, is deemed of great importance to public health. At less than a month old, the flesh of the calf is not even gelatine, but a viscid and glutinous juice, containing very little fibrine, (which is an animal substance essentially nutritious,) still less ozmazome, a principle exciting to the digestive organs. Hence there are few stomachs capable of supporting such food; and were it digestible, it would strengthen and nourish the body very badly.

HORTICULTURE.

Mr Fessenden—I am happy to find, by the following notice, in the 33d. No. of the Annales de Horticulture, recently received, that the scions and grape vines, which we sent to the Horticultural Society of Paris, have reached their destination.

'Meeting of the Council of Administration on the 7th of April, 1830.'

'After the Proces-verbal of the last meeting had been read and adopted, the President communicated a letter from Mr Dearborn, President of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, containing information on the labors of that institution accompanied by a collection of grafts, consisting of ten varieties of Pears, six varieties of Apples, one variety of Cherry, and three varieties of Grape Vines. The Council voted thanks to Mr Dearborn and to the Massachusetts Society, and decided that the present be honorably mentioned in the Annales. The Grape Vines were confided to M. Laconete De Murinais, and a register of inscription, for the distribution of the grafts was immediately opened.'

The letter sent with the scions and vines, and the description, the varieties furnished by Mr Downer, are published, in the above named number of the Annales.

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DOUBLE FLOWERS.

As double flowers are unnatural and are considered accidental, or the result of some peculiar mode of cultivation, but which has ever been involved in mystery, I inclose an extract from the Annales de Horticulture, containing an account of a novel theory, which has been illustrated by successful experiments.

Although botanists consider double flowers as monsters, they are still much admired, and florists have been assiduous in their efforts to produce them. Numerous methods have been suggested to the cultivator, but as vague and unphilosophical, as the recipes of the alchymist, and with results, on experiment, equally unsatisfactory. If the process, which has succeeded so completely with the China Aster, should prove to be applicable to other flowers, an important and most interesting discovery has been made in the economy of the vegetable kingdom. To ascertain this, experiments must be multiplied on a great variety of ornamental plants, and they are worthy the attention of all, who are zealous to extend the delightful domain of Floriculture.

With sincere esteem,

Your most obedient servant.

Brinley Place, Roxbury, July 26, 1830. H. A. S. DEARBORN.

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EXTRACT NO. XIX.

From the Annales D' Horticulture.

Method of obtaining Reines Marquerites, Aster Chinensis, with double flowers, from the seeds produced by Reines Marquerites, with simple flowers; by M. Poiteau.

In collecting the seeds of the China Aster, it is the general custom to give a preference to those of the superior flowers, as they are larger and better nourished; and this choice is founded on the belief, that the double flowers are the result of an augmentation of vigor, and of a more considerable development in the plants which produce them.

It is very natural, indeed, that cultivators should attribute the cause of double flowers to a more considerable development, because they very often see, that the plants, whose flowers are double, also become more vigorous, than those of the same species which produce simple flowers. They also see that double flowers become simple, when their culture is neglected, or when they are abandoned entirely to the care of nature.

Notwithstanding, a contrary doctrine has been maintained, by some of the learned, within fifteen or twenty years: Bosc participates in it, and he has endeavored to establish it in Deterville's *Cours d' Agriculture*. This doctrine consists in regarding the double flowers as the result of an impoverishment of the plants, instead of an augmentation of vigor and development. This is the principal argument adduced in its favor; *that all t'e substance of a double flower in a dried state, is less than that of the seed and its appendages which would have been produced, if the flower had not become double.*

I shall not attempt to urge the objections which might be raised to this doctrine; but the fact which I am about to state is favorable to it.

In 1786, having in my garden only single China Asters, a curate of the neighborhood desired me to give him some seeds; I did so; he planted them and obtained only single flowers; but I was much astonished, on visiting the curate the second year, to behold his China Asters all double, and of the greatest beauty. Presuming he had obtained his seeds elsewhere, I hastened to ascertain of whom he had procured them. The seeds, he replied, were collected from your China Asters, which have produced these beautiful flowers. Still more astonished, I desired him to inform me how he had done it. 'I have,' he replied, 'collected them only from the little heads of the inferior branches of the plants; it is necessary to have patience to do this, for these little heads do not all contain seeds, and most of them have but one or two.' The same year I gathered only the seeds of the small heads of my plants and the year following they yielded magnificent double flowers.

This process, as has been seen, is not new, for it was known before 1786; nevertheless, I believe that many amateurs are ignorant of it. I publish it for the interest of Horticulture, and as a fact in support of the theory, which assigns, as the cause of double flowers an impoverishment in the plants which produce them.

From the Windsor (Vermont,) Chronicle.

NEW ENEMY TO WHEAT.

We have just returned from examining a field of Spring Wheat, belonging to the Hon. J. H. Hubbard of this place. On approaching the field, the appearance promised a good crop. On examining the heads, minute black spots were found, generally near the centre of the chaffy covering of the kernels, which appear to have been made by some insect, piercing the chaff to deposit its eggs. On removing the chaff, the kernels were found to be infested with small yellow worms, subsisting upon its juices. They commence their operations on the surface of the kernel, where the egg was at first deposited. In some cases, only a slight injury is inflicted, the growth of the kernel on that side is checked, and the kernel grows 'out of shape.' In others, where the mischief seems to have commenced earlier, the juices of the kernel have been wholly consumed, and a mere speck remains. Several worms were commonly found feeding on the same kernel. On one we counted ELEVEN. Some heads are nearly destroyed, others less, and others little if at all. There will be from one fourth to half a crop. They were first observed about the middle of last week, when they were much larger and more active than at present. We hear that several other fields of Spring Wheat have sustained similar injury. Some fields of Winter Wheat have escaped; others have not.

Here is work for our entomologists, scientific farmers, and Lyceums. Let us learn the whole history of this insect, and we shall doubtless find some way to attack him successfully. In order to this, many persons must busy themselves in collecting facts, and these facts must be brought together, compared and arranged. We invite attention, therefore, to the following points:

1. A description of the perfect insect; the time when, and the circumstances under which, it first appears and deposits its eggs.

2. How long before the egg becomes a worm; and are there any circumstances, which hasten or retard the change?

3. What other changes does it undergo, before it becomes a perfect, and, as it probably does, a winged insect; and how long is the time; and what effect has any kind of weather, or other circumstances, on its progress?

4. Where, and in what condition, does it spend the winter?

5. Does it, in any of its states, feed on any plant except wheat; and if so, on what?

6. Are there any kinds of wheat, which it does not attack,—and if so, what appears to be the reason?

Any one can collect information on these and similar points, and all, put together, will teach us how we may best guard against this new enemy of our agricultural interests.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

BOSTON, FRIDAY, AUGUST 6, 1830.

BLIGHT IN PEAR TREES.

We are sorry to perceive, by an article in the last *National Ægis*, that our remarks on a disease in pear trees, [page 6 of our current volume] have been thought to be intended to 'carp at' some observations on the same subject by '*Agricola*,' which were republished from the Ægis, and immediately preceded the observations alluded to. We were perhaps unfortunate in expressing our ideas, but we meant to convey opinions *coincident* with those of that writer, viz. that the insect in pear-trees, technicaly called *Scolytus Pyri* was *one cause*, but not *the sole cause* of what is called *the* blight in pear-trees. We had no intention of being 'pungent,' and our similes were meant to elucidate, not to throw an air of ridicule on the subject. The quotations from Coxe and Miller were intended to *corroborate* the opinions of 'Agricola,' who observes 'that there is a disease often affecting the pear tree, external indications of which are similar to those exhibited on limbs of that tree girdled by bugs or insects, which originates from an entirely different cause.' The fact is, that like some other *cross-grained* people we sometimes have the appearence of being a little *tart*, without being aware of our testiness.

If the author of 'Agricola' is the person to whom we attributed that article he is the last per-

son in the world to whom we would wittingly or willingly give any cause of offence. And when we observed that 'the blight mentioned above by "*Agricola*" is probably what is called by writers fire blight, the blight in the limb of a pear tree sent us by Dr FISKE was, no doubt, caused by *Scolytus pyri*,' we intended merely to express *our concurrence* in opinion with '*Agricola*,' and we then quoted certain authors as *authorities* on the *same side* of the question, without wishing to claim any 'inferences' of our own which were not deducible as well from Agricola's premises as from other sources. In short our article was meant to be understood as an approving and corroborating *comment* on that writer's *text*.

Since writing the above we have conversed with Dr HARRIS, of Milton, whose acquisitions in entomological science are as honorable to himself as beneficial to the community; who expressed his acquiescence in these opinions, advanced as well by Agricola as the writer of this article, relative to *different causes* of blight in pear-trees.

SCIENTIFIC, JUDICIOUS, AND PROFITABLE FARMING.

We have lately enjoyed the pleasure of viewing the beneficial results of correct cultivation, as exhibited on a farm of about 140 acres, 80 acres under cultivation, belonging to ELIAS PHINNEY, Esq. of Lexington, Mass. Mr Phinney began to cultivate this place about seven years since. The farm, previous to that time, though mostly cleared from its native growth of wood, shrubs, &c, was '*carried on*,' according to the old fashioned modes of farming, in which every agricultural operation was conducted with the least possible labor, and the crops were in due proportion to the deficiency of science, means, and exertion used for obtaining them. The grass-land was '*bound out*,' that is, the sward was so matted and tufted as to be almost unfit for vegetation; and the plough-land was '*run out*,' or exhausted of food for plants; and no judicious methods were adopted for accumulating, preserving, and making the most of manure. The amount of hay usually cut on the farm, was from 7 to 10 tons a season; and the other produce in about the then usual proportion to that quantity of hay, on similar farms in this section of the country.

Mr Phinney, however, within the seven years to which his superintendence and occupancy have extended, has about *ten folded the ordinary annual produce of the farm!* Instead of from seven to to ten, he now cuts seventy or eighty tons of hay, and obtains other articles of customary culture in New England, in about the same proportion. He has, moreover, successfully introduced new products as well as new modes of cultivation. Among others, the Tall Meadow Oats Grass, (*Avena elatior*) of which he favored us with some notices given in the *New England Farmer*, vol. viii. p. 300. In these he states that '*in the Spring of 1827, I sowed with barley a field of four acres and put on 2½ bushels of oat grass seed per acre, (3 would have been better) 5 pounds of red clover, and 2 of white clover seed to the acre. The soil, was thin and had been exhausted by long cropping. I intended it for pasturing, but in the spring it looked so promising that I concluded to mow it the first season. On the 3d of June, 1828, it was cut, and gave me two tons to the acre, of the finest and best hay either for cattle or horses, I have ever had in my barn.*'

Mr Phinney's farm is adorned with an orchard, composed wholly of choice fruits, for which its owner, in 1827, received from the Massachusetts Agricultural Society, a premium of a silver cup of the value of 20 dollars. Mr Lowell, then President of that Society, in an address, delivered at its public meeting, Oct. 17th, 1827, states that a 'committee appointed to examine orchards, for which application had been made for a premium, examined an orchard planted by Elias Phinney, Esq. of Charlestown and Lexington. Mr Phinney selected a most favorable spot, declining towards the south, covered five years since with shrub-oaks and rocks, and there planted his orchard, 400 trees in number, of the best fruits. The trees were in the most beautiful condition—every superfluous twig carefully and judiciously extirpated, and their general health gave the best evidence of judicious management. If the premium of the society had been offered to the orchard in all respects best managed, without any regard to *number*, Mr Phinney would probably have carried the premium.' * * *

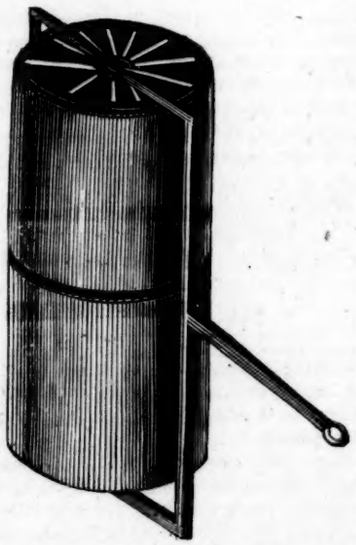
'The general state of Mr Phinney's farm, was, however, so perfect, considering the means applied to it—there was so much good judgment in all his operations—he having made also the first and a very successful experiment in making wine from the native grape, that your committee recommended, and the trustees have voted, to present to Mr Phinney, a silver cup of the value of 20 dollars, with such inscriptions as a committee of the trustees may devise, indicative of his merit, as a farmer.'

The trees in this premium orchard are at this day in a most prosperous condition. We have never seen any whose verdure was so deep, bark so smooth, and appearance of thrift so promising and luxuriant. This orchard has been kept almost constantly under the plough, and, when we saw it, was covered with a very fine crop of Indian corn and potatoes. The tops of the trees were so shaped and thinned by judicious and skilful pruning that the limbs did not interfere with, nor approach too near each other, and were so arranged that the fruit must have the full benefit of the sun and air. Where limbs had been cut off there was scarcely any appearance of a scar or cicatrix, nor the least rottenness, dryness, or cavity in the wood of the stem from which the severance was made. In order to effect this, the excision was at such a distance from the stalk or branch from which the limb cut off was divided, that the stub or stump left might just be inclosed or covered with the next season's growth of the tree, and thus the stem was not weakened and no cavity left to admit water, and cause decay or gangrene in the parts adjacent.

In 'a reply to inquiries of the Hon. Mr LOWELL, and others of the Agricultural Committee,' Mr Phinney says '*Most of my trees were taken from the nursery in November, the roots placed in trenches and covered with dirt until the following spring. This was done to avoid the necessity of setting them out before the ground had become warm and dry. If left in the nursery till spring they are seldom or never taken up until the sap has begun to flow. When removed after this takes place, the check occasioned by the removal, if not fatal to the tree, often injures its future growth. The best time to take up trees is unquestionably, when the sap is least active. If taken up late in autumn, and the roots secured from the sun and air, they may be kept with perfect safety till the middle of May; and if planted out at this time with proper care, and as near the surface as possible, vegetation commences almost instantaneously; they will not require to be supported by stakes, and will grow nearly as much the first as any subsequent year.*'*

Mr Phinney is not only eminently successful as a cultivator, but obtains his crops at a less expense of labor than has been deemed requisite by the old system of husbandry. In ploughing sward land he directs to '*let the roots and tops of the grasses, together with all the vegetable matter on and near the surface, be buried and retained to ferment, and decompose, and the poor earth be brought to and retained on the surface, where by culture and exposure to the atmosphere it will soon become a body of rich mould.*' He has given the details of his mode of culture by which from two acres of sward land, which had been considerably exhausted by long cropping, yielding less than a ton of red top and herds grass to the acre, ploughed the first of May, 1828, he gathered from 70 to 80 bushels of Indian corn to the acre in the September succeeding; and the next summer 69½ bushels of excellent rye, with which the land was laid down to grass. In this way he obtained, by one ploughing, only, two large arable crops, and stocked his land to grass, which has yielded at the rate of 2½ tons the acre. He raised from 70 to 80 bushels of Indian corn, and about 35 bushels of rye to the acre, on land, which had usually yielded but from 35 to 45 bushels of the former, and 15 bushels of the latter to the acre.† He has, moreover, ploughed up grass-ground in May, raised a crop of barley with which he laid the land down to grass again; and in another instance, having turned the sward completely over, and passed a roller over the furrows, he sowed grass seed without grain, and thus renewed the growth of grass, without an arable crop. The success in all these experiments was the consequence of keeping the sod under the soil, till the former was completely decomposed.

Mr Phinney has made improvements in the structure of the Roller, an implement of which he makes great use; of which we here give a sketch.



His improved roller consists of four worn out

* For further notice of Mr PHINNEY's mode of cultivating fruit trees, see N. E. Farmer, vol. vi. p. 122.

† See N. E. Farmer vol. viii. p. 42.

and condemned wagon or cart wheels, placed on an iron axle of about 6 feet in length, and 1¼ inch in diameter; the old holes in the hubs having been previously filled with wood, and a new hole made through this of proper size to admit the iron axle. The whole of the wheels are then covered with oak-planks, four inches wide, and 2½ inches in thickness. *The roller is then separated into two parts with the saw*, leaving two wheels fastened together by the outside planks, for each half; a frame is then made round the whole, the ends of which are fitted on the ends of the axle; a brace of iron a quarter or half an inch in thickness with a hole for the axle to turn in, is extended from the centre of the axle between the two parts of the roller and fastened to the forward and after part of the frame, and a spire fitted into the forward part to draw by, completes the roller.

The roller is five feet in diameter, and presents the following, among other advantages. 'If the ground be very mellow a small roller is apt to draw it into ridges, the small stones to be crowded into heaps before it, rather than pressed into the earth where they lie, and the surface consequently left uneven; and when used upon the ground in the spring of the year, which had been sown with grass seed the fall previous, the roots of the tender plants are often injured by its tendency to *drag* rather than to *roll* over the ground. These difficultics are all cured by enlarging the diameter. The large roller also moves easier, and the weight falling more directly upon the small stones, they are better pressed into the earth; the lumps of earth more finely broken, and the surface left much smoother.'

Mr Phinney has introduced other improvements among which are new and valuable varieties of field and garden vegetables, improved breeds of domestic animals—articles not yet of common culture in this section of the country, such as grapes, tomatoes, Sinclair beets, a variety of choice and rare fruits. &c, &c,

His barn is large and well adapted to the purposes of utility and convenience; and every part of his premises shows that science, skill, and industry have united to produce a pattern farm, and place its owner in the front rank of New England Cultivators.

Another excellent farm in the neighborhood of Mr Phinney's, owned and cultivated by Capt. Daniel Chandler, will soon receive such notices as our time, room and opportunities for examining its improvements may hereafter admit.

MIDDLESEX AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The public are reminded that the Committee on Farms, Fruit and Forest Trees, will attend to their duty in the course of a few weeks—and that application must be seasonably made either to the Secretary of the Society, in Concord, or to one of the following

Trustees.—Edward Wetherbee, of *Acton*. Stephen Wyman, *Ashby*. Michael Crosby, *Bedford*. Paul Hayward, *Boxboro'*. William Winn, *Burlington*. Samuel P. P. Fay, *Cambridge*. John Nelson, *Carlisle*. John Soley, *Charlestown*. Nath'l Hayward, *Chelmsford*. Nathan M. Wright, *Concord*. Benjamin F. Varnum, *Dracutt*. George Wright, *Dunstable*. James Draper, *East Sudbury*. James Brown, *Framingham*. Jonathan H. Loring, *Groton*. Elihu Cutter, *Hollis-ton*. Nathan Phipps, *Hopkinton*. Daniel Chandler, *Lexington*. Ephraim Flint, *Lincoln*. Jacob Priest, *Littleton*. Phineas Whiting, *Lowell*. Jonathan Rice *Marlboro'*. Nathan Adams, Jr., *Medford*. Job Brooks, *Natick*. Abel Jewett, *Pepperell*. Edmund Parker, *Reading*. Daniel Leland, *Sherburne*. Moses Whitney, *Stow*. Burrage Yale, *South Reading*. Thomas Whitney, *Shirley*. Josiah H. Adams, *Sudbury*. Josiah Brown, *Tewskbury*. Simon Thompson, *Tyngsboro'*. Nahum Hardy, *Waltham*. John Clark, *Watertown*. Lucius Reed, *Westford*. Abijah Thompson, *Woburn*. John Baldwin, *Billerica*. William Cotting, *West Cambridge*.

The Trustees in the several towns are requested to notify the Secretary of all applications made to them for premiums on Farms.

JOHN STACY, *Secretary*.

Concord, July 24, 1830.

To Correspondents.—A very valuable and elaborate article on the importance of the culture of Silk in the United States, and on the new Chinese Mulberry tree *(Morus Multicaulis,)* by Gen. Dearborn, was received too late for this week's paper—also one on the Passe Colmar and Napoleon pears, from Mr Prince, of New York—and one on the best mode of cultivating the Potato onion.

Yellow Locust Seed, &c.

For sale at the Seed Store connected with the New England Farmer, 52 North Market-street,

Fifty pounds of genuine and fresh yellow Locust Seed, saved for us by a gentleman in Harrisburg, Pa. The excellence of this timber for posts, its uses in ship building, its easy culture, rapid growth, &c. recommend it to the notice of farmers. Directions for its culture furnished gratis.

Also, seed of the *Gleditschia triacanthos*, or Honey Locust—or three thorned Acacia,—for live fences. This is the sort recommended by Judge Buel, (in the New England Farmer, vol. viii. page 164) as the best plant that can be cultivated for hedges: of very rapid growth, long and abundant thorns, and with hard and strong wood, and it is attacked by no insect, which gives it a decided advantage over Hawthorns.

Aug. 6.

Ruta Baga Seed.

Just received at the Seed store connected with the New England Farmer, 52 North Market-street,

A few pounds of the new Red Top Ruta Baga Turnip Seed, from Scotland, where it is considered much superior to the common sort.

Also, 100 lbs. of the common Yellow Top Ruta Baga, all warranted of the first quality.

Turnip Seed, &c.

For sale at the Seed Store connected with the New England Farmer Office, 52 North Market-street,

An extensive assortment of Turnip Seeds, of the most valuable sorts for family use or stock. The most approved kinds for the farmer, are the White Dutch, White Stone, Yellow Stone and Yellow Malta. The two latter are of uncommon excellence, and keep well. Loudon describes the Yellow Malta as 'an excellent and beautiful root,' and of delicious flavor. Of the sorts for field culture, the White Norfolk, Yellow Aberdeen, White Flat, and Ruta Baga, are the best. The Yellow Aberdeen is most approved among the Farmers of England and Scotland, as it grows to a large size, is very sweet and nutritious, and keeps till June. The above seeds were saved in Europe expressly for this Establishment, and the utmost dependence may be placed on their genuine quality.

200 lbs. of the finest English White Flat Turnip Seed, raised *this season*, expressly for this Establishment, by Mr Aaron D. Williams, of Roxbury, and warranted of the first quality, for sale, wholesale and retail.

Also, a variety of Long and Turnip rooted Radishes, suitable for sowing the ensuing months, Long Prickly, and many other varieties of Cucumbers for pickling.

July 9.

Chloride of Soda.

For sale at the Seed Store connected with the N. E. Farmer, 52 North Market-street—A few dozen bottles of Chloride of Soda, for preserving meat, removing offensive smells, neutralizing pestilential exhalations, and destroying contagion; prepared by the New England chemical company for Lowe and Reed. This valuable article is particularly described, page 390 of this week's New England Farmer.—Price $1,00 per bottle, with directions,

Bolivar Calves, Saxony Bucks, and Bremen Geese

For sale, 4 Bull Calves, sired by the celebrated imported improved Durham short horned bull Bolivar, which stock have produced 36 quarts of milk a day. No' 1, dam Grey Brown, half Cœlebs and half Galloway. No' 2, dam Juno, three fourths Fill Pail. No. 3, dam Ceres, her sire Cœlebs, her dam Mr Gray's imported Cow. No. 4, dam Beauty, half Cœlebs and half Galloway. The Calves are beautiful, and their dams all great milkers.

Two imported Saxony Bucks, 2 Yearlings, and 2 Lambs. 3 pairs of Bremen Geese. Inquire of Benjamin Shurtleff, Jr, Chelsea, or at 52 Hanover Street, Boston.

tf. July 9.

PRICES OF COUNTRY PRODUCE.

			FROM	TO
APPLES, new,		barrel.	2 00	3 00
ASHES, pot, first sort,		ton.	115 00	120 00
Pearl, first sort,		"	133 00	135 00
BEANS, white,		bushel.	1 00	1 25
BEEF, mess,		barrel.	9 25	10 50
Cargo, No. 1,		"	9 00	9 50
Cargo, No. 2,		"	6 50	6 70
BUTTER, inspected, No. 1, new,		pound.	10	13
CHEESE, new milk,		"	7	8
Skimmed milk,		"	3	5
FLOUR, Baltimore, Howard-street,		barrel.	5 37	5 53
Genesee,		"	5 37	5 75
Rye, best,		"	3 50	3 87
GRAIN, Corn,		bushel.	46	55
Rye,		"	65	67
Barley,		"	60	65
Oats,		"	40	42
HAY,		cwt.	60	70
HOG'S LARD, first sort, new,		cwt.	10 50	11 00
HOPS, 1st quality.		"	14 00	15 00
LIME,		cask.	85	95
PLAISTER PARIS retails at		ton.	3 50	3 75
PORK, clear,		barrel.	17 00	18 00
Navy, mess,		"	12 25	12 50
Cargo, No. 1,		"		12 50
SEEDS, Herd's Grass,		bushel.	2 00	2 00
Orchard Grass,		"		3 00
Fowl Meadow,		"		4 00
Tall Meadow Oats Grass,		"		2 50
Red Top *(northern,)*		"	62	75
Lucerne,		pound.	33	38
White Honeysuckle Clover,		"		33
Red Clover, (northern)		"	7	8
WOOL, Merino, full blood, washed,		"	50	55
Merino, full blood, unwashed,		"	30	35
Merino, three fourths washed,		"	42	45
Merino, half blood,		"	38	42
Merino, quarter		"	35	40
Native, washed,		"	35	37
Pulled, Lamb's, first sort,		"		50
Pulled, Lamb's, second sort,		"	38	42
Pulled, " spinning, first sort,		"		40

PROVISION MARKET.

CORRECTED EVERY WEEK BY MR' HAYWARD,

(Clerk of Faneuil-hall Market.)

BEEF, best pieces,	pound.	8	10
PORK, fresh, best pieces,	"	8	10
whole hogs,	"	5	6
VEAL,	"	4	8
MUTTON	"	4	10
POULTRY,	"	10	25
BUTTER, keg and tub,	"	10	13
Lump, best,	"	15	20
EGGS,	dozen.		12
MEAL, Rye, retail,	bushel.	84	85
Indian, retail,	"		70
POTATOS, new	"		50
CIDER, [according to quality,]	barrel.	3 50	4 00

Brighton Market—*Monday, August 2.*

[Reported for the Chronicle and Patriot.]

At Market this day, 275 Beef Cattle, 20 Cows and Calves 238 Stores, 2448 Sheep.

Prices—Beef Cattle—From $4 to 4 75; 3 or 4 extra were taken at $5, and there were some sold for less than $4—a great proportion of the Cattle to day were small and of an ordinary quality.

Cows and calves,—Quite a number were sold at $15 a $20.

Stores.—The first at market this season, nearly all of which were sold.

Sheep and Lambs.—Quick sales, fair lots at 1 37½ a 1 87½, two or three lots were sold at $2, and one lot of about a hundred were taken at $1 08, one lot of wethers at $2 32 and one at $3.

A TRUE SKETCH.

The depopulating pestilence that walketh at noonday, the carnage of cruel and devastating war, can scarcely exhibit their victims in more terrible array, than exterminating drunkenness. I have seen a promising family spring from the parent trunk, and stretching abroad its populous limb like a flowering tree, covered with a green and healthy foliage. I have seen the unnatural decay beginning upon the yet tender leaf, and gnawing like a worm in the unopened bud, while they dropped off, one by one, and the scathed and ruined shaft, stood alone, until the winds and rains of many a sorrow laid that too in the dust. On one of those holy days when the patriarch, rich in virtue as in years gathered about him the great and the little ones of his flock—his sons with their sons, and his daughters with their daughters,—I, too, sat at the festive board. I, too, pledged them in the social wine cup, and rejoiced with them round the hospitable hearth; and expatiated with delight upon the eventful future; while the good old man warmed in the genial glow of youthful enthusiasm, wiped the tear of joy from his glistening eye. He was happy. I met with them again when the rolling year brought the festive season round. But they were not all there. The kind old man sighed as his suffused eye dwelt upon the then unoccupied seat. But joy yet came to his relief, and he was happy. A parents' love knows no diminution—time, distance, poverty, shame, but give intensity and strength to that passion before which all others but dissolve and melt away. Another year elapsed. The board was spread. But the guests came not. The old man cried, 'Where are my children?' And echo answered, *where?* His heart broke—for they were not. Could not heaven have spared his gray hairs this affliction? Alas! the demon of drunkenness had been there. They had fallen victims of his spell. And one short month sufficed to cast the veil of oblivion over the old man's sorrow and the young one's shame. They are all dead.—*N. Y. American.*

Drunkenness.—Drunkenness is the occasion of nine tenths of the grief and guilt that aggravate the inevitable distresses of the poor. Dry up that horrid thirst, and the hearts of the wretched would sing aloud for joy. In their sober senses, it seldom happens that men, in a Christian country, are such savages. But all cursed passions latent in the heart, and seemingly, at least, dead, or non-existent, while that heart beats heartily in sober industry, leap up fierce and full grown, in the power of drunkenness, making the man at once a mimic, or rather at once converting him into a fiend.—*Blackwood's Magazine.*

The following extracts are from an old book by John Josselyn, Gent., printed in London, 1672. If the descriptions were true then, the things described have much changed since.

'Fourscore miles (upon a direct line) to the Northwest of *Scarborow*, a Ridge of Mountains run Northwest and Northeast an hundred leagues, known by the name of the *White Mountains*, upon which lieth Snow all the year, and is a Land-mark twenty miles off at Sea. It is rising ground from the Sea shore to these Hills, and they are inaccessible but by the Gullies which the dissolved Snow hath made; in these Gullies grow *Saven* Bushes, which being taken hold of are a good help to the climbing Discoverer; upon the top of the highest of these Mountains is a large Level or Plain of a days journey over, whereon nothing grows but Moss; at the farther end of this Plain is another Hill called the *Sugar-loaf*, to outward appearance a rude heap of massive stone piled one upon another, and you may, as you ascend, step from one stone to another, as if you were going up a pair of stairs, but winding still about the Hill till you come to the top, which will require half a day's time, and yet it is not above a Mile, where there is also a Level of about an Acre of ground, with a pond of clear water in the midst of it; which you may hear run down, but how it ascends is a mystery. From this rocky Hill you may see the whole Country round about; it is far above the lower Clouds, and from hence we beheld a Vapour (like a great Pillar) drawn up by the Sun Beams out of a great Lake or Pond into the Air, where it was formed into a Cloud. The Country beyond these Hills Northward is daunting terrible, being full of rocky Hills, as thick as Mole-hills in a Meadow, and cloathed with infinite thick Woods.

'*New-England* is by some affirmed to be an Island, bounded on the North with the River *Canada* (so called from Monsieur *Cane)* on the South with the River *Mohegans* or *Hudson's* River, so called because he was the first that discovered it. Some will have *America* to be an Island, which out of question must needs be, if there be a Northeast passage found out into the South Sea. The Northeast people of *America*, i. e. *New-England*, &c. are judged to be *Tartars* called *Samoades*, being alike in complexion, shape, habit and manners, (see the *Globe:)* Their Language is very significant, using but few words, every word having a diverse signification, which is exprest by their gesture; as when they hold their head of one side the word signifieth one thing, holding their hand up when they pronounce it signifieth another thing. Their Speeches in their Assemblies are very gravely delivered, commonly in perfect *Hexamitre* Verse, with great silence and attention, and answered again *ex tempore* after the same manner.'

'The Porcupine.—The *Porcupine* in some parts of the Country Eastward, towards the *French*, are as big as an ordinary Mungrel Cur; a very angry Creature and dangerous, shooting a whole shower of Quills with a rowse at their enemies, which are of that nature, that wherever they stick in the flesh, they will work through in a short time if not prevented by pulling of them out.'

'The Jaccal.—The *Jaccal*, is a Creature that hunts the *Lion's* prey, a shrew'd sign that there are *Lions* upon the Continent; there are those that are yet living in the Country, that do constantly affirm, that about six or seven and thirty years since an *Indian* shot a young *Lion*, sleeping upon the body of an Oak blown up by the roots, with an Arrow, not far from Cape *Anne*, and sold the Skin to the *English*. But to say something of the *Jaccal*, they are ordinarily less than *Foxes*, of the color of a gray Rabbet, and do not scent nothing near so strong as a *Fox*; some of the *Indians* will eat of them: Their Greese is good for all that *Fox* Grease is good for, but weaker; they are very numerous.'

'The Pond Frog.—The Pond *Frog*, which chirp in the Spring like *Sparows*, and croke like Toads in Autumn: Some of these when they set upon their breech are a Foot high; the *Indians* will tell you, that up in the Country there are Pond *Frogs* as big as a Child of a year old.'

The French expedition, fearing that the Algerines may poison the wells along the coast, have taken 600 dogs with them, as tasters. If they drink with impunity, men will have nothing to fear.

Census of Boston.—The population of Boston falls some short of 61,000. The population in 1820 was 43,298. Increase in ten years about 17,500, or about 40 per cent.

Moss Mattresses.—Mattresses made with fine moss are now getting into general use in Russia and Sweden. They are filled to a depth of twelve inches, are very elastic and wholesome, and the cost of renewing them is of course trifling.

Propagation of the Chinese Mulberry Tree in the south of France.—Mr Barthere, nurseryman at Toulouse, writes us, March 14, 1830, that he has so far been successful in propagating the *Morus multicaulis*, that he will be ready next fall to deliver from 8 to 10,000 of them of different ages. We are glad to announce that source of supply to our numerous applicants, for what we could neither give nor sell. Mr Barthere has also experimented with this by rearing silk worms and manufacturing their silk—now deposited in the Library of the Royal Horticultural Institute—the plants which have produced that silk were cuttings of the same year, which were as good as those of four or five. He says that this tree does not grow so high as the white mulberry, but suffices to alleys and shades of eight or ten feet, and is confident that in grounds and vineyards which could hardly give two per cent, this tree will now insure at least ten per cent.—*Horticult. Annales, No. 13, April, page* 44.

Hoven cattle.—A correspondent of the Bucks County Intelligencer recommends the following remedy for cattle which have been hoven by eating damp clover.—Mix a double charging of Gunpowder in a pint of new milk, and give it to the animal with a horn or bottle. In nine cases out of ten, (says the writer) this will disperse the fixed air contained in the stomach, and afford relief.

Oneida Indians.—Rev. Mr Davis, who accompanies 250 Oneidas, removing to the neighborhood of Green Bay, states that many of them had made considerable progress in learning and were good agriculturists. We found one of them in our office, says the editor of the Detroit Journal, reading very carefully the New England Farmer, and the general appearance of the party was in every respect superior to that of most of the other tribes, with which our streets have been thronged during the summer.

New Work on Farriery.

Just received and for sale at the Seed Store connected with the New England Farmer Office, No. 52 North Market Street,

The Veterinary Surgeon; or, Farriery taught on a new and easy plan: being a treatise on all the diseases and accidents to which the Horse is liable; the causes and symptoms of each, and the most improved remedies employed for the cure in every case; with instructions to the Shoeing-Smith, Farrier, and Groom, how to acquire knowledge in the art of Farriery, and the prevention of Diseases. Preceded by a popular description of the animal functions in health, and showing the principles on which these are to be restored when disordered. By John Hinds, Veterinary Surgeon. With considerable additions and improvements, particularly adapted to this country, by Thomas M. Smith, Veterinary Surgeon, and Member of the London Veterinary Medical Society. Price $1,25.

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